

THE PRESIDENT'S GUILT.

The evidence which the President Grant with the criminal use of the secret service fund is about complete. It is no longer an isolated matter sworn to by one man, but it is a fact corroborated by several witnesses and by documentary evidence. And how well it dovetails into the other disgraceful transactions which have brought the Administration into shame and cast reproach upon the country. We have the testimony that Colonel Whitley paid some thirty-five thousand dollars to Davenport out of this secret service fund, to be used by him to influence the New York elections. This money was paid by Whitley under protest, because he was himself responsible for the fund, and he did not pay it until he was ordered to do so expressly by the President, the latter knowing full well for what it was to be used.

This fund was a sacred one, to be "expended under the direction of the Attorney General for the detection and prevention of crime," and the fact that ordinary vouchers for its expenditure were not required, caused it to be subject to the honor of the President.

We can only hope that those who will represent North Carolina in that body will be such as can and will do justice to the party and to the State.

THE SOUTH AND THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINEE.

We cannot but have regard to the choice of the Southern Democrats for President, and for whom their votes will be cast in the St. Louis Convention. It is certainly true that the Southern people have very decided preferences among the several eminent gentlemen who are most frequently named in connection with the Democratic ticket. It is not constant with Southern character to stand off, indifferent witnesses of a struggle in which the welfare of the country and their own are so intimately connected. Impartial they are, and this very fact demonstrates the deep and abiding interest they feel in the result. When we consider Southern nature, the controlling part the Southern States have almost since the foundation of the government taken in the politics of the country, and that the fact that they will certainly contribute one hundred and twenty-seven, and probably one hundred and thirty electoral votes of the one hundred and eighty-five which will be necessary to elect the Democratic candidate, their perfect willingness and ability to contribute these votes to any of the distinguished Southern Democrats who are named for the nomination, is the best evidence which can be given that they seek only the good of the country, and not the promotion of any man or set of men.

We are not prepared to say that the Southern delegates to the National Convention will not take a decided stand in favor of some candidate, but we are convinced that they are convinced that it is the strongest man they can get. We can and do appreciate the fact that our Northern friends will be to some extent divided upon questions of finance, upon sectional and local prejudices and upon personal preferences, and that their judgments will be more or less biased by these considerations. It will be impossible for the delegates from New York or Delaware or Indiana or Ohio or Illinois, who will each present a favorite son for the endorsement of the Convention, to consider its proceedings or to regard its final action with the same coolness and judgment that the delegates from Virginia, North Carolina Georgia and Texas can. Surrounded by the representatives of the Democratic party from the Union, and under the enthusiasm which such an association will engender, the chances of defeat are lost sight of, and the choice of the favorite is alone considered. Indeed success becomes doubtful under the banners of any other leader, and the struggle dwindles to a contest merely between the friends of particular candidates. But with the Southern delegates will be the friends of the Democratic party, and their political principles will be more important than the nomination of any favorite, and it matters not to what State he lives, or what may be his individual opinion upon side issues. And we take it that the Southern people will be careful not to send delegates whose personal attachments will outweigh their better judgment.

We know that a very large majority of the Southern States have a decided preference for one of the distinguished gentlemen spoken of as a presidential candidate, and if he develops the requisite strength at the North they would unite in his nomination, and ratify it at the polls, with an enthusiasm which has been witnessed before. Yet they can and will go to St. Louis ready to cast their votes for a different man if in their judgment the best interests of the party require it. Indeed we are prepared to see the Southern votes divided between all the candidates in the earlier ballottings, and do not believe they will concentrate until it is demonstrated who will be the strongest of the Democratic nominees. We are satisfied, however, that the Southern will receive this vote whose political principles are not well established and whose private character is not in keeping with the exalted position to which he aspires.

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DISTRICT CONVENTION.

It will be seen by reference to the proceedings of the Democratic Executive Committee for this Congressional District, that the Convention has been called to meet in Fayetteville, on Wednesday, May 31st. We express the hope that there will be a full meeting of delegates from the several counties in the District upon that occasion.

The nomination of a member of Congress will not be the only, nor the most important duty devolving upon that body. The success of the next presidential election will depend almost entirely upon the judgment displayed by the National Democratic Convention at St. Louis, and upon the delegates from the Southern States will rest a great responsibility for the decision of that body. More than ever it is necessary for the South to send men who will be equal to the responsibilities devolving upon them. Men who are confident upon their own merits, and are controlled by any particular set of men, have no business to represent the people of North Carolina in that Convention. And especially do we object to men with no fixed political principles, or whose judgments are warped by any claims for expediency and policy misrepresenting our people in a party which is determined to fight with their dearest hopes and interests.

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located at St. Louis by a parcel of impracticable "fire-ates," and predict certain defeat to the party therefrom. We stand ready to aid them in the great and necessary work of reforming the government, and we shall be a helpmate and not a stumbling block in their way to accomplish this purpose. We stand ready to endorse the platform which they will write, and to support the candidate which they will nominate, insisting only that both shall be in keeping with the time-honored principles and character of the party.

AWAYING THE NEGROES.

We publish elsewhere the fear of the ugly facts brought out before the special committee of the House of Representatives on the Freedmen's Bank showing how the poor negroes of the South were plundered. They displayed a shakedown of jobs, a rumpus, a fraud upon the part of the managers of that institution. The poor negroes throughout the South were robbed without mercy for the benefit of the friends of the administration at Washington.

The President himself, as well as members of his personal and political household were stockholders in the Freedmen's Bank. They had got large amounts of money without adequate security, and had his friends composed the Real Estate Pool which also swindled the institution. The miserable sharks at Washington and at the various branches who plundered themselves and their hard-earned savings were devoured with an unparalleled rapidity. The investigation throws a lurid light upon the whole matter, and it is to be hoped that the guilty parties will yet find themselves behind prison bars.

These matters furnish food for thought for the poor negroes whose party faith at least should have saved them from such a fate.

RICHMOND EQUATOR.

This old and reliable paper comes to us in a new and beautiful dress. It has put on a fresher attire, in keeping with the youthful vigor which it is edited. It is one of the most welcome and eagerly perused exchanges which visits our section. We express the hope that during the next twenty years of its existence it may be as useful and as influential as it has been during the past three quarters of a century.

NORTH CAROLINA FILMS ASSOCIATION.

At the last annual meeting of the Association, Newbern was selected as the place of the succeeding meeting. In pursuance of the resolution adopted by the Association, I hereby give notice that the 4th annual meeting of the Press Association of North Carolina will be held in the city of Newbern on Friday, the 10th of May. A full attendance of the members of the Association is desirable, and members of the press not yet connected with the Association are cordially invited to be present.

J. D. CAMERON.

President N. C. Press Association. RALPH, April 23, 1876.

COCKING.

A Tarboro correspondent of the Washington Republican says that while Senator Morton has some local strength in the Wilmington section, the friends of Senator Clinking may easily come on the top of the ticket in the Cincinnati Convention. He adds that two of the delegates to the State at large are zealous supporters of the claims of Mr. Cocking. This information is in keeping with what we have thought and said. The choice of the Administration will be the choice of the South. Cocking of the "Great Unknown" will be the Republican nominee.

DEATH OF A GIFTED MAN.

We regret to learn that Edwin W. Fuller of Louisville, the poet and author, died on Saturday last at his home of pulmonary consumption. Mr. Fuller had attracted the attention of the reading public by some of his minor verses which had found their way into the papers, but it was not until the publication of his poem, "The Angel in the Cloud," and his novel, "S-A-G-I-T," that his true rank in the field of letters was established. His poem will be read and admired as long as poetry and brilliant genius are valued. His long career had health and early death has robbed North Carolina of many rich poetries with which his brilliant pen would have decorated her literary annals.

OUR UNIVERSITY LETTER.

CHAPLAIN HILL, April 22, 1876. DEAR JOURNAL: The Commencement Celebration of the University of North Carolina is fast approaching, being the day appointed for the beginning of the exercises. Therefore, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, and to thank you for the interest you have taken in the University. I am sure that the exercises will be a most successful one, and that the University will be well represented by the students and faculty. I am, Sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant, J. D. CAMERON.

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WASHINGTON LETTER.

Impeachment Notices and Proceedings. The President's Price and the President's Veto.

(From a Washington Correspondent.)

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On Monday full hour before the time for the convening of the Senate as a court of impeachment, the galleries were densely filled with ladies, and a large number of the press, families of members of Congress, and others. The Chief Justice was conducted to a seat on the right of the Vice President, and the President took his seat on the left. The Secretary of the Senate took his seat on the right of the Chief Justice, and the Clerk on the left. The President then rose and read the charges against the President.

THE COST OF GRANTISM-CORRUPT USE OF PUBLIC MONEY.

How the Campaign of 1872 Was Fought and Won—One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars Disbursed—Davenport's Raid on the Treasury.

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but it is generally thought that it will be Wednesday night of Commencement week. The Rules of the JOURNAL have been informed about the manner of conducting the trial, and therefore it is useless for me to say that they will represent their societies with credit.

The Hon. A. M. Wall-Hill, your Congressional Representative, will deliver a speech in the Senate, in connection with the trial of Mr. T. C. Blaine of Maine in the House, in the veto of the Presidential salary reduction bill by the President, and in the testimony of ex-Attorney General Williams before the committee on expenditures in the Department of Justice. That \$32,000 were paid out of the secret service fund to carry the election in the city of New York by order of President Grant.

There will be other distinguished North Carolinians who will deliver a speech. Among these are Judge Dick, and the Hon. J. D. Cameron. The Rev. T. H. Fritchard will preach a sermon before the students. I have been, as yet, unable to find out the place, but as soon as I find out I will let you hear from me again.

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WASHINGTON, April 22.

This week has been eventful in the commencement of impeachment proceedings in the Senate, in connection with the trial of Mr. T. C. Blaine of Maine in the House, in the veto of the Presidential salary reduction bill by the President, and in the testimony of ex-Attorney General Williams before the committee on expenditures in the Department of Justice. That \$32,000 were paid out of the secret service fund to carry the election in the city of New York by order of President Grant.

On Monday full hour before the time for the convening of the Senate as a court of impeachment, the galleries were densely filled with ladies, and a large number of the press, families of members of Congress, and others. The Chief Justice was conducted to a seat on the right of the Vice President, and the President took his seat on the left. The Secretary of the Senate took his seat on the right of the Chief Justice, and the Clerk on the left. The President then rose and read the charges against the President.

THE COST OF GRANTISM-CORRUPT USE OF PUBLIC MONEY.

How the Campaign of 1872 Was Fought and Won—One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars Disbursed—Davenport's Raid on the Treasury.

(From the Atlantic City Gazette.)

WASHINGTON, April 21.

All the efforts of the supporters of the administration will now be directed to raising a cloud of mystery over the